

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A polypeptide comprising more than one S3 peptides comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID No: 1, wherein at least two of the S3 peptides are separated by a linking sequence cleavable by a protease.
2. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1 wherein the S3 peptides are in tandem repeat.
3. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 1 comprising 2 to 10 S3 peptides.
4. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 1 comprising two S3 peptides.
5. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 1 comprising three S3 peptides.
6. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 1 comprising four S3 peptides.
7. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 1 comprising eight S3 peptides.

Claims 8 and 9 (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A polypeptide comprising more than one S3 peptides comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID No: 1, wherein at least two of the S3 peptides are separated by a The polypeptide of claim 1 wherein at least one of the linking sequence is cleavable by acid digestion.

11. (Currently amended) The polypeptide of claim 10 wherein the at least one of the linking sequences comprises Asp-Pro.

Claim 12 (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) A polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9, having a linking sequence cleavable by a protease.

Claim 14 (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 1 wherein the more than one S3 peptide is tagged with a detectable label.

16. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 15 wherein the label is detectable by fluorescence.

Claims 17 – 31 (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 1 immobilized on a solid medium.

33. (Currently Amended) The polypeptide peptide of claim 15 immobilized on a solid medium.

34. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 33 wherein the solid medium is agarose.

Claim 35 (Canceled)

36. (Currently Amended) A ~~commercial~~ package comprising the polypeptide of claim 1 and instructions for its use in detecting LPS-containing bacteria in a sample.

Claim 37 (Canceled)

38. (Currently amended) A ~~commercial~~ package comprising the polypeptide of claim 32 and instructions for its use for removing LPS or LPS-containing bacteria from a sample.